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## GAME BIRDS FACE FOOD SHORTAGE; BIOLOGICAL SURVEY URGES FEEDING

Because the 1930 drought has in many regions greatly reduced food supplies for quail, grouse, pheasants, and other upland game birds, the Biological Survey of the U. S. Department of Agriculture urges farmers, sportsmen, hunters, and bird lovers of the country to put out feed for the birds during the coming winter. Conditions this winter may be the most critical for the birds in many years, say bureau officials, who ask that State game commissions, game wardens, sportsmen, and game-protective organizations cooperate with farmers in providing feed, labor, and funds, especially during the latter part of the winter.

Farmers invariably are interested in feeding the ordinary number of game birds on their properties, but in case of unusual numbers, the Biological Survey suggests that game commissions, sportsmen's clubs, or humane societies assist in feeding the birds.

A mimeographed leaflet just issued by the Biological Survey calls attention to this emergency and recommends several effective methods of feeding upland game birds in winter. These include the following: Leaving standing and shocked corn in the fields, providing grain in the sheaf,

opening straw stacks regularly, spreading manure in the fields daily and scattering threshed grain with it, placing wheat and other grains in sheltered feeding places, and feeding ear corn. These methods are fully described in the leaflet, copies of which may be obtained free from the Bureau of Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.

As starvation of game birds is usually the result of short rations over long periods rather than for a few days, the situation will not be relieved much unless the birds are fed for a long time. Scattering shelled grain from airplanes is not recommended, because grains spread in this way sink rapidly into loose snow or are soon covered by drift or fresh snow.